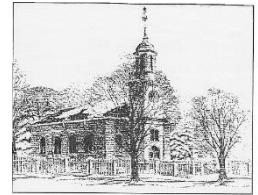


THE CROWN

The Newsletter of Christ Church Shrewsbury
Christ Church is a community committed to exploring the reality of God in today's world



Volume XXV Issue II

February 2025

Basic Principles of Democracy Event with the Honorable John D'amico, Jr.



RECTOR'S REPORT FOR 2024

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!" Isaiah 2.5

The verse from Isaiah reiterates the theme of our 2025 pledge campaign, "*you are the light of the world; let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.*" Matthew 5.14. There are some who think we shouldn't let others see what we are doing (the right hand shouldn't know what the left hand is doing), but that isn't exactly what the gospel tells us. We certainly do not need to be prideful about what we do, but it is by our actions that the world witnesses the workings of the Holy Spirit among us.

This Annual Report not only provides an historical account of what our church has been doing this past year; it is also a witness of what Jesus is doing among us. And that is something to celebrate! That we should sing out loud and clear! I hope you will find in this record an affirmation of your many gifts and talents, of your love and sacrifices, of the joys and sorrows we have shared together.

I want to begin the record with the many changes that have been made within the leadership of Christ Church. There is no place to begin other than at the beginning: on the very day of our last Annual Parish Meeting. That morning, I received a painful jolt before ever leaving the rectory for the church: our beloved Altar Guild Directress Phyllis Edwards, had passed away. Phyllis had been suffering from some medical issues, but her death certainly took us by complete surprise. Deacon Vicki and Bill Cuff went over to the Edwards' house to be with George until I could get there: it is one way we walk together with one another in the light of the Lord.

We miss Phyllis terribly. Not only was she completely dedicated to the Altar, she was an integral part of our parish, having a hand in almost every aspect of our life together. We missed her at the Flea Market. We missed her all summer at Mass on the Grass. We missed her at the Christmas Bazaar. Today we are dedicating linens for the altar in her name, a fitting tribute for this Annual Meeting.

I must tell you how very grateful I am to Judi Buncher and Cindy Webster, who bravely picked up the mantle of the Altar Guild, stepping in to serve as Co-Directresses. Usually, a Directress has a period of transition as they take on this important ministry: these two were thrust into it without warning – and have served faithfully and graciously. I am indebted to their leadership and support.

We also had changes in the office this year. For the first month we were completely without an administrator. I took charge of the Annual Report and the weekly bulletins (which became the two-sided sheets we are still using). Senior Warden Peggy James and former Office Administrator Casey Surgent then came on board, splitting the hours of the office as the vestry worked to discern just what we wanted to do with that position. With the cutbacks in staff due to our budget constraints, we needed to be careful about what we could afford. In September we were thrilled to welcome Francesca Parker as the Office Administrator. She is a wonderful addition to our staff; if you have not yet met her, be sure you do.

In August, we said our goodbyes to Deacon Victoria Cuff and her husband Bill, who relocated to the Washington DC area. Vicki and Bill came to Christ Church about a dozen years ago and were a valued part of our church family. We celebrated their ministry with us at our Parish Picnic in August at the home of Peggy James and John Callaghan. We wish them well as they enjoy time with their children and grandchildren.

The very week the Cuffs moved (and I was still lamenting the loss) I received an email: would Christ Church be willing to take on a seminarian who needed field placement? Of course, I said yes! Denzel Donaldson arrived the very next Sunday. I must say, I was expecting a twenty-something to show up on my doorstep but was so pleasantly surprised to find a fully formed, wise and mature man of incredible faith and experience. Denzel immediately fit in with the rest of the staff and has been such a blessing to us – and to me personally. Besides

being a full-time seminarian at The General Theological Seminary, Denzel preaches regularly, has been active in all of our social events, and he and Deacon Bill have forged a strong and vibrant men's ministry,

As if all these changes were not enough, we had once last – and very big – change left. Our much-loved Organist and Choir Director Iris Chen told me in August that she was resigning from her post. Iris had just finished three years with us, but the position was taking a toll on her very active family's life, and she made the difficult decision to leave Christ Church. She graciously agreed to stay through November as we completed a search for her replacement. We had a lovely reception for Iris, her husband Patrick, and her two daughters Isabelle and Isara, on Christ the King Sunday. We truly miss the entire family.

A search we did, and we were very excited to call Fiona Sutherland to the position of Organist/Choirmaster. Fiona has now been with us for a mere two months, but she has worked hard, and we are enjoying the fruits of her labor. I am certain that our choir will flourish under her leadership; do consider coming and singing with us.

The details of all the various ministries that filled the year 2024? You can find them in the pages that follow. Look for your name! If it is not there, consider why that is and what our Lord might be calling you to do. Together, let us continue to walk in the light of the Lord, shining before others so that they may see our good works and give glory to God in heaven.

Peace,
Mother Lisa Mitchell+

PARISH NEWS & NOTES

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish office hours are Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 am to 2 pm.

ANY CHANGES?

Please advise us of any changes in address, e-mail, or telephone number so we can keep our records up to date. Please send us an email or call the Church Office at 732-741-2220.

Parishioner Contact Information Changes:

Jeff Veil
jveil2195@gmail.com
(610) 342-7110

Barbara Raspanti
Brandywine
1587 Old Freehold Road, #253
Toms River, NJ 08755

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all who participated in the Annual Meeting. A special thank you to those who served in the kitchen!

IN THE KITCHEN

There is a blue recycling bin in the kitchen, please use it! However, it is **ONLY** for glass, metal and plastic. All other garbage must be put in the regular trash.

OFFERING PLATE

We always appreciate your monetary donations at Christ Church, but a gentle reminder: please make sure to label your envelope with your name to ensure your donation goes towards your annual tithe. And don't forget all charitable donations are tax deductible!

PARISH HOUSE

It has come to our attention that the recycling bin in the kitchen is being used for all garbage. Please be mindful *only* glass, plastic and metal goes into the bin.

TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



On Sunday, January 12th, Owen Patrick McConnell, son of Charles and Melissa McConnell received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and was welcomed into the church. We rejoice with them and their family.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED



For the sick and suffering, and those in any need or trouble:

*Anderson Pedalino, *Bill Balmer, *Carolyn,
*Cassie Reagan, *Dianne Regiec, *Halina Nibbling,
*Jim Miller, *Joan, *John Smalls, *Judi Buncher,
*Julia Walsh, *Larry Nibbling, *Mimi Brown,
*Pam Diamond, *Richard Brugger, *Rod Webster,
*Sarah Schmid, *Tia LaPiana, Victoria Cuff, Diane
Smith, Greg Shaljian, Jack Sauber, Jocelyn, John
Veil, Lenna Veil, Linda Forrest, Lynn McKittrick,
Meriwether Schmid, Mignon Williams, Pam, Pat &
Bob Rivenes, Peddy, Todd Diamond
May they be relieved of their distress

**Denotes members of Christ Church*

IN REQUIEM

Joseph Skelly
Died 1/31/25

Jim McGee
Died 1/28/25

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful
departed rest in peace and may perpetual light
shine upon them. Amen*

MEET THE NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS OF OUR 2025 VESTRY

Elaine Feyereisen - Senior Warden
Peggy James - Junior Warden
Sue Napoletano - Vestry
Dianne Regiec - Vestry
Madna Aubry - Vestry
Julie Sinn Cassidy - Vestry
Walter Dein - Vestry
Susan Sellers - Vestry
Bob Stewart - Vestry

Deputies to Diocesan Convention

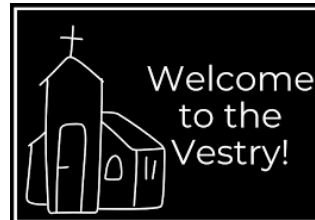
Allie Cummings, Bob Honecker, Kim Roberts

Alternate Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Connie Goddard, Peggy James

PARISH LIFE

2025 NEW VESTRY WELCOME RETREAT



The Vestry will be having their Annual Retreat February 7th – 8th. On Friday night, we will meet at the home of Peggy James for a “get to know you” dinner. We will meet at the Rectory on Saturday at 9:00 am to plan for the coming year(s). Please keep your vestry members in your prayers!

ECW: EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN



Half a dozen women from Christ Church met for breakfast at the American Diner on January 11th. Besides having a lovely breakfast and a lot of fun catching up with old friends and making new ones, we talked about what we would like to do to nurture the relationships we have and the ministries we share.

We decided we would like to meet again, this time for lunch. So, mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 22nd**. We are meeting at **12 noon at the Molly Pitcher**. We have many things we can talk about; we are hoping to do some planning for the Christmas Bazaar. And whatever else might be on your mind! Do plan on joining us. Let Mother Lisa know if you are coming so she can make a reservation.

GIRL'S FRIENDLY SOCIETY (GFS)



Hey girls and moms - we have a lot going on this month!

First is our regular Zoom Meeting on Monday, February 3rd at 7:00pm. A zoom link will be sent to you by Saturday.

Second is our Souper Bowl Sunday Soups Sale! We are asking you to make your favorite homemade soup to be sold on Sunday, February 9th. We will have pint containers on hand, so please bring your cooled soup with you on Sunday morning by 9:00 am. We can package them together and get everything ready for the after-church crowd at the Coffee Hour. We can't wait to see what delicious soups await us.

Third is a wonderful opportunity to see the movie, **The Philadelphia Eleven**. This is a film about the first 11 women ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1974. Their story is an inspiration to all girls and women (boys and men, too!) in our Church. We have been invited to join a screening of this movie on Sunday, February 23rd at St. Peter's in Freehold. The film begins at 12:15; we can head out to see it right after our 10:15 service.

Lastly, we have dates for summer camp at Cape May! Mark your calendars for **Sunday July 20 to Friday July 25**. All girls 9 years old and older may be eligible to attend. Do call the church office if you are considering it; we need to have a headcount. If you are a mom (or grandma!) who is interested in working at camp, let us know that as well.



EYC: EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY



Youth Group Superbowl Fundraiser

This year EYC (Episcopal Youth Community, commonly known as the Youth Group) is hosting our Superbowl Vote on Sunday, February 9th. The Group is planning on participating in a Mission Trip in 2026. While we have not settled on a mission project yet, we are looking to the future and the support that we will need. Julie and Mother Lisa have been exploring options for 2026 including nearby community work and farther away house repair for a week in West Virginia. The funds raised will get them started on their goal, so please be generous!

THE SUPER BOWL CHALLENGE



Which team are you rooting for?



Who will win this year? The Eagles? The Chiefs?

We don't know – but we are going to take a vote on Super Bowl Sunday morning. You will find two buckets in the narthex of the church in which you can throw in a dollar for each vote. All proceeds will benefit the Episcopal Youth Community.

(\$1.00 = 1 vote)

We will tally the votes and see if our members can predict the correct outcome!

COVENANT HOUSE SLEEPOUT!

We're excited to once again join in the fun at the **Asbury Park Community Sleep Out on March 14th at the Asbury Park Convention Hall**. This impactful event will feature a powerful program, followed by a night of solidarity with our young residents. All funds raised will directly support care and programming for youth facing homelessness and survivors of human trafficking right here in Monmouth County.

Here are some of the successes from FY 2024:

- **20 youth served** in Asbury ROP (CH houses)
- **83% of exits** to stable destinations
- **25% were enrolled** in school at exit
- **42% were employed** at exit

This important work cannot be accomplished without the support of area churches – and you and me! So... what do you think? Can we count on you to join us?

We are working on getting our website set up for this exciting event. If you're ready to participate in the Sleepout, you will soon be able to go to our website and sign up to be on our team. If you have trouble navigating such things, we would be happy to register you. Simply contact the Church Office.

If you are unable to sleep out but would like to support our team, you will be able to do that on the website as well. Let's make 2025 a great year for these budding adults!

*Please see flyer at the end of the Crown for more information on the Covenant House Sleepout!

SAINT GREGORY'S CHOIR

Music is an integral part of the life of Christ Church Parish. Beautiful and well-maintained instruments, a newly revived adult choir program, children ready to lend their voices to enhance worship, and a community that appreciates, supports, and participates in our musical offerings make this parish a joy to serve.

I have been at Christ Church only a short time but can already feel the spirit and energy in this parish. The future together will be bright! Following a successful Advent and Christmas season, we are looking forward

to Holy Week and Easter with both excitement and careful planning.

The St. Mary's Children's Choir rehearses many Sundays following church and sings once a month during the school year. We are so indebted to Brother Richard for the time and energy he gives to this program and for the youthful sounds of the children.

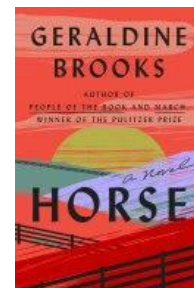
The St. Gregory's Adult Choir is a blessing! Such a group of enthusiastic singers – we invite more of Christ Church to come and worship (and laugh) with us. I am thankful to them and to the parish for their support of these genial and gifted singers.

Looking ahead, we hope to implement some different "Pop-Up" music opportunities with singing, instruments, handbells, etc. We hope many of you will join together in worshipping the Lord through song.

Respectfully submitted by Fiona Smith Sutherland

PEAK IN THE WEEK FEBRUARY 2025

February is still Black History Month and to that end the book we will be reading and discussing will be *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. It is a moving story that spans generations. Join us for a talk that is bound to touch your life and actions.



Here are several other books that are offered as thought-provoking and timely additions to our February Black History offering:

James by Everett Pickett

Master Slave Husband Wife by Ilyon Woo

Nickle Boys by Colson Whitehead

Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead

Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead

Peak in the Week meets most Wednesdays in the parish house. We start with an informal Eucharist at 9:30 and we get bookish at about 10:15. Come join us, we'd love to have you!

~Donna Devlin

CHURCH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Is it Spring yet? No, but so Eggs-cited to tell you that the chocolate Easter eggs are under production already. Let's say we hop to it and start planning our sales pitches! Let's make this fundraiser Eggs-cellent!

Faithfully, Sue Nap

2025 EPIPHANY PAGEANT

January 5 saw the presentation of the annual Epiphany Pageant at Christ Church, Shrewsbury. It was an adaptation of a story called *The Night the Angels Sang* from the book *Midrashy* by Donna Devlin. Our angels twirled and leaped and danced their hearts out in a spectacular way! Joseph, a young shepherd boy, got to meet THE Joseph and his famous son. Three sages from afar followed a flashy star and gave costly gifts to a young child. It was the stuff of dreams and the cast and crew were spectacular. See the performance on the Christ Church web site: [Christ Church Epiphany Pageant](#).

Many thanks to Mimi Brown for the photos and Bramley Maber for the video. Because angels flit in and out and all over the place and sheep wander off causing shepherds to follow them, all the angels and sheep and shepherds may not be entirely accurate. I most definitely apologize!

Mary:	Lily Marino
Joseph:	Bill Balmer
Issac Shepherd:	Steve Craven
Nathan Shepherd:	Dexter Craven
Young Joseph Shepherd:	Brian Wachter
Young Jesus:	Jackson Downs
Angels:	Emma Downs, Charlotte McConnell, Scarlett Joline, Eledy Beights
Other Shepherds and sheep:	William McConnell, Addison Joline, Everett Beights
Sage:	Laura Stroeble
Sage:	Sue Nap
Sage:	Carla Navallo

Star:	Abe Craven
Narrator:	Dashiel Cassidy
Narrator:	Kodi Craven

As always, my deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Sue Nap and Mother Lisa for letting me come to Christ Church and play!

~Donna Devlin

EPIPHANY PARTYING AND AFTERMATH

The Pageant's over, the party is starting - here come the King cakes - wonder what I'll get this year - Ooh, there's a penny wrapped up in parchment paper. Let me think about this while I have another slice of King Cake - oh, there's a big white bean wrapped in parchment paper. The penny means that I need to turn that into a dollar for charity by next year's Epiphany Party. The bean means that I need to write a poem. I think it should probably have something to do with Epiphany. That will be fun to work on. The penny, the penny, what can I do with the penny to turn it into a dollar?

Well, I thought and thought. Nobody would pay me a dollar to write my poem. What can I do?
GOT IT!

One of the things that I do is crochet prayer shawls. And Mother Lisa blesses them and then they are given to people for a variety of reasons. I have sometimes given a prayer shawl to a new mother or father or grandmother or grandfather. Sometimes I have given one to a friend just because they are a friend, and we've shared special memories. Sometimes I made one for a person who is seriously ill or feeling down and alone. I've given them to each of my students in my EfM classes. There's no end of reasons why people can use, or would like, a blessed prayer shawl.

THEREFORE, I have invested my King Cake, found penny in some yarn and I will take orders for prayer shawls (your choice of color or colors). For each shawl ordered by a Christ Church parishioner I will donate 25% of my usual price to Christ Church. If you are interested in ordering a shawl, you may contact me at sarahannb@aol.com.

Now to work on the poem.

~Donna Devlin

TIMELY TALKS ABOUT DEMOCRACY BY A LOCAL JUDGE

When John D’Amico was a sophomore at Red Bank High School (this was during the Eisenhower Administration), his history teacher asked her students whether they knew the “basic principles of democracy.”

If he and his fellows were not quite sure of them when the class began, they knew them by its end. And now, several members of our congregation and interested community members are far more familiar with these principles, too, courtesy of a series of lectures held in the Parish Hall during January. The talks have been particularly useful as we transition from one presidential administration to another.

The principles so attracted young D’Amico’s attention that he went to law school, worked as a corporate attorney, then became a member of the state senate and eventually of the state supreme court. A resident of Oceanport, he and his wife are friends of Noel and Paul Murgio; they not only arranged the lectures but brought refreshments for the lively conversations that followed the lectures.

In addition to hearing Judge D’Amico’s explication of the principles (see box), listeners heard him relate stories about how he has employed his sense of civic duty to hold governments accountable. An early one involved organizing other commuters so frustrated with the appallingly poor local train service that they pressured that state to make substantial improvements in the Jersey Coast Line.

D’Amico also commented on several other topics related to the principles – the impact of social media, the value of a civic literacy curriculum, threats to the institutions that have governed our society, his service on the state parole board, addressing homelessness, and the importance of a solid education for all.

In his closing talk, as part of asking whether or not we are a Christian nation, D’Amico posed the tension between equality and liberty. After citing Biblical verses that offer scriptural support for both, he listed Presidential actions that have furthered one

or the other. He concluded his talk with suggestions on lessening the polarization that currently afflicts us: chief among them, needed reforms in how we elect our representatives and addressing widespread ignorance about how government functions.

Given recent news, the discussion following his talk was particularly animated. One audience member noted that we need to listen more closely to those we differ with; another suggested organizing – as Judge D’Amico had done with fellow commuters long ago: Action, she said, can lessen our anxieties.

Given below are the Six Basic Principles of Democracy D’Amico learned in high school (somewhat abbreviated)

1. All people are created equal.
2. All persons are endowed with natural rights (life, liberty, etc.)
3. The people are guaranteed freedom of speech, assembly, and the right to petition the government.
4. No person can be deprived of life, liberty, or property without the due process of law.
5. Government is by the consent of the government through elected representatives.
6. The people may change their form of government by amending the constitution from which it derives its powers

The full form of these is given in John D’Amico’s book, *Murder, Media, Metamorphosis* (2024), which is available through Amazon.

~Donna Devlin

THANK YOU TO OUR COFFEE HOUR HOSTS!!



We are so thankful to those of you that have signed up to host Coffee Hour. Everyone really enjoys the time spent together with fellow parishioners.

We are in need of hosts for February 9th, March 16th, and March 30th. Please consider signing up to host, it's EASY! The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Parish House.

“IT TAKES A VILLAGE”

**Queení Caay lives in the Philippines and Christ Church sponsored her college education.*

“A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed” - Proverbs 11:25

Dearest Christ Church Shrewsbury Family,

I heard about how eager you are to meet me in person. I am just as eager as everyone because I want to personally thank the people who constantly pray for me. Unfortunately, that may not happen anytime soon. As you may know, I was working on my second attempt to get a B1/B2 visa (tourist visa) with the help of Mother Lisa. I know that it had been announced at church, and you prayed for me before my interview day, and for that I am so grateful.

I was also filled with hope that since I had processed it early this year, the chances of getting approved may be higher than last time. I flew to Manila, and for two days I dealt with the US Embassy procedures, but they once again refused to approve my visa request. I can remember clearly how the Consular Officer looked at me in a suspicious way and asked me questions in a cold tone. It's as if I was talking to a robot because even if I had all the proof in my hand, she did not bother to look at it. I brought every supporting document she'd probably need, dressed semi-formal as instructed on their website, and answered her questions truthfully. In the end, she is still not convinced I will visit the USA with the sole

intention to meet the church members nor for pure tourism.

There are a lot of factors that could have affected her decision. It is hard to guess, and they're not allowed to say on what grounds they had to reject you. Among many possible reasons, it might be personal because she thinks I am too young to travel alone in the USA and may have other intentions, or economical because there are so many nonimmigrants choosing to work in the USA with no permit right now. Every consular officer is different, and they assess each applicant based on their own knowledge and experience making their decision absolute, and so I respectfully accepted it. I can't really blame them because a lot of people are going to the USA for the wrong reasons, and many of them have been dishonest during their own applications.

Of course, I was heartbroken because I think they sometimes decide based on generalizations. They will judge that you will most likely break rules because other people in your situation did. But I've always believed there is a right time for everything. Maybe now is not the perfect time to meet you. Maybe there is one fine day especially set for that, and I just have to be patient.

I look forward to that one fine day with you.

Love and prayers, Queení Caay

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT'S LENTEN MEDITATIONS

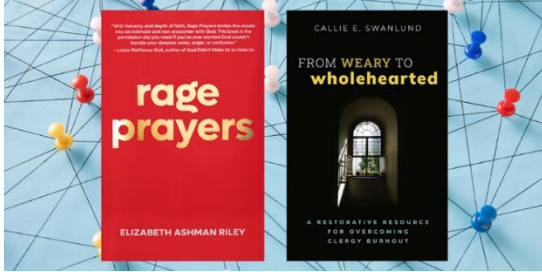


You're invited to subscribe to Episcopal Relief & Development's Lenten Meditations! Visit our [website](#) to sign up for daily meditation emails,

written by Jerusalem Jackson Greer, on the divine gifts we find in community. Even if you have received our daily meditations in the past, you may not be subscribed to them this year. Please click [Subscribe Today](#) to make sure!

ECF FELLOWS FORUM

A Spirituality that Embraces our Whole Heart - Joy and Rage Alike. Join the forum on February 13, 2025!



In a post-pandemic world marked by political uncertainty, climate crisis, and church decline, clergy and lay Episcopalians feel overwhelmed and anxious.

Join ECF Fellows the Rev. Callie Swanlund and the Rev. Elizabeth Riley on Thursday, February 13th, 2025, from 3-4 pm Eastern Time as they delve into the anxiety, fear, and anger you may be feeling. They will discuss prayers and tools from their books, “From Weary to Wholehearted” and “Rage Prayers.”

The discussion will explore a spirituality that embraces the whole heart – joy and rage alike – equipping us to support our communities with compassion and justice.

Join the forum!  [Click here to register and save the date.](#)

Since 1964, the ECF Fellowship Partners Program has supported 240 scholars and ministry leaders throughout The Episcopal Church, fostering innovation in theological formation and ministerial leadership. The 2025 fellowship application is open through March 11, 2025. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program and how to apply.



The Men's Breakfast Group will be returning to the Parish House for its February gathering from 8:30 to 10:00 am on Saturday, February 15, 2025.

Brother Richard Thomas, BSG, who is well known to many at Christ Church as St. Mary's Choir Director, will be joining us to discuss his six decades of leadership of one of the Episcopal Church's first dispersed religious communities, the Brotherhood of St. Gregory. All men in the Parish are invited to come and get in the game to make a difference at Christ Church, in the community, at work, and at home. Don't be left on the sidelines.

Please call the Parish Office at (732) 741-2220 and register today!

CONCERT PERFORMANCE BY KEITH SPENCER

Keith Spencer returns in a concert performance at Trinity Cathedral to perform "The Paul Robeson Songbook: A Negro Spiritual and Gospel Celebration of the Music of Paul Robeson" this Sunday, February 2 at 3:00 pm.

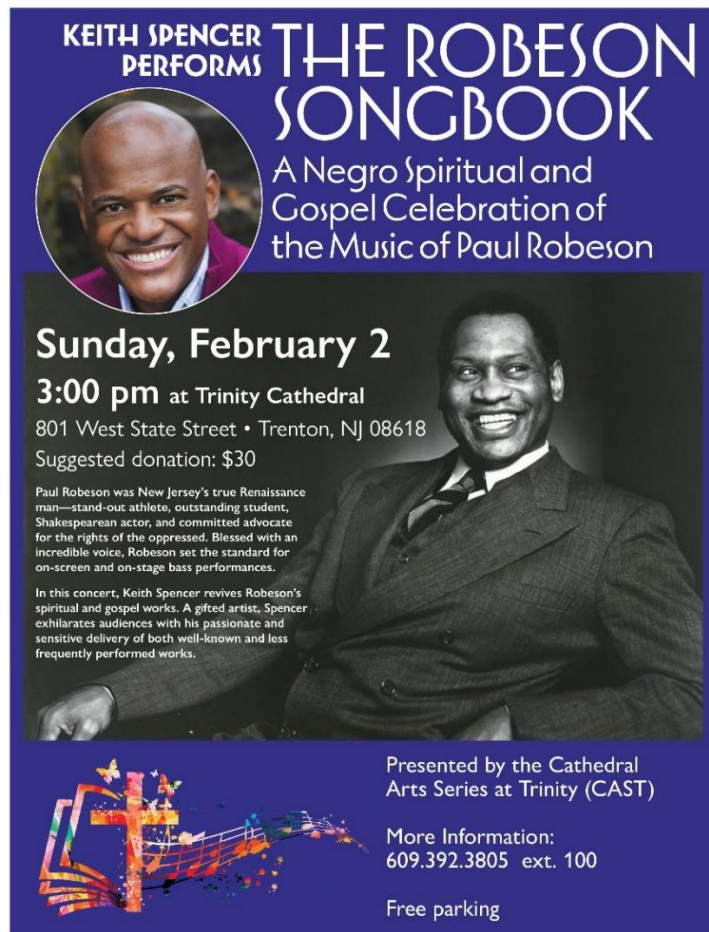
Mr. Spencer has had the honor of singing concert stage backing vocals for artists such as Roberta Flack, Rosemary Clooney, and Sandi Patty. He appeared opposite Billboard Top 100 artist, Doreen Taylor, in *An Enchanted Evening – A Night with Oscar Hammerstein II* which debuted in Philadelphia to critically-rave reviews. Keith was also selected as featured concert soloist for Paul Robeson's 120th Birthday Celebration hosted by the Paul Robeson House of Princeton.

Recently, Keith performed his tour-de-force one-person concert experience, *Brothers on Broadway – A Celebration of Broadway's African American Leading Men* with the Capital Philharmonic of New Jersey to rave reviews and record-breaking

audiences. *Brothers on Broadway* is one of a series of concert works Mr. Spencer has staged that highlight the African American experience and celebrate Black artists. Other works in the series include: *We Shall Not Be Moved – Songs & Speeches from the Civil Rights Movement* *That Old Black Magic – Celebrating the "Cool" of Nat King Cole, Sammy Davis, Jr., Billy Eckstine, and Johnny Hartman* and the newest addition to the series, *Lord, Write My Name – From Slavery to Freedom: The Gospel and the African American Experience in Spirituals*. *Lord, Write My Name* is an inspirational blend of African American Spirituals interspersed with narratives, poetry, and letters penned by freed slaves and iconic Black figures throughout history.

Tickets for this much-anticipated concert event are just \$30, and can be purchased at the door or by calling the Trinity Cathedral office: (609) 392-3805 ext. 100.

For more information about Keith Spencer, visit www.keithspencer.com.



KEITH SPENCER PERFORMS THE ROBESON SONGBOOK
A Negro Spiritual and Gospel Celebration of the Music of Paul Robeson

Sunday, February 2
3:00 pm at Trinity Cathedral
801 West State Street • Trenton, NJ 08618
Suggested donation: \$30

Paul Robeson was New Jersey's true Renaissance man—stand-out athlete, outstanding student, Shakespearean actor, and committed advocate for the rights of the oppressed. Blessed with an incredible voice, Robeson set the standard for on-screen and on-stage bass performances.

In this concert, Keith Spencer revives Robeson's spiritual and gospel works. A gifted artist, Spencer exhilarates audiences with his passionate and sensitive delivery of both well-known and less frequently performed works.

Presented by the Cathedral Arts Series at Trinity (CAST)

More Information:
609.392.3805 ext. 100

Free parking



SLEEP OUT

ASBURY PARK COMMUNITY EDITION AT CONVENTION HALL



COVENANT HOUSE NEW JERSEY IS ON A MISSION...

to eradicate youth homelessness across New Jersey. Experience Sleep Out and impact the lives of youth facing homelessness and survivors of human trafficking.

MARCH

14-15

FRI-SAT

CONVENTION HALL

8:00 P.M. - 7:00 A.M.

SLEEP OUT IS PART OF THE SOLUTION

This year's Sleep Out: Asbury Park Community Edition experience will give you the option to participate in our live Sleep out experience at the Asbury Park Convention Hall on Friday, March 14 to Saturday, March 15. We will also be offering a virtual Sleep Out option. Remote Sleepers will be invited to participate in the online program. At night, our Sleepers will give up their beds and sleep out on the Asbury Park Boardwalk and virtual sleepers will sleep out in their backyards, garages, porches and terraces across New Jersey.

SCAN TO REGISTER TODAY



smonteiro@covenanthouse.org

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Sleep Out is more than an uncomfortable night — it is an experience that can change the way you see the world. Hear inspiring stories from people who have overcome homelessness, learn from experts confronting the crisis, confront stigmas, and advocate for a future where everyone has a safe place to sleep.

When you register, you create a personal fundraising page that you share with friends, family, and coworkers. Each Sleeper has a fundraising goal, \$1500 ages 23 and up and students can work with a coach to reach their goal of \$300. Donations go directly to CHNJ where they are immediately put to work caring for youth.



THOSE WHO SERVE- FEBRUARY

February 2

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer (10:15 am only)
Seminararian: Denzel Donaldson
Acolytes: 8 am Edgar John, Denzel Donaldson
10:15 am Jonathan Badal, Josie Borden, Denzel Donaldson
Lectors: 8 am Peggy James / Denzel Donaldson
10:15 am Robert Maber, Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers: 8 am Peggy James
10:15 am Bramley Maber, Christine Maber
Organist: Fiona Smith Sutherland Altar Guild: Judi Buncher & Tia LaPiana
Coffee Hour: Cassandra & Abigail Murphy

February 9

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer (10:15 am only)
Acolytes: 8 am Judi Buncher, Denzel Donaldson
10:15 am Cassandra Murphy, Dexter, Kodi & Ave Craven, Denzel Donaldson
Lectors: 8 am Peggy James
10:15 am Josie Borden, Larry Nibbling
Ushers: 8 am Carl Alfano
10:15 am Elaine Feyereisen, George Edwards
Organist: Fiona Smith Sutherland Altar Guild: Halina Nibbling
Coffee Hour: *Host Needed

February 16

Officiant: Denzel Donaldson
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer
Acolytes: 8 am Edgar John, Denzel Donaldson
10:15 am Tia LaPiana (CB), Joshua Dunford, Matthew Dunford, Denzel Donaldson
Lectors: 8 am Dianne Regiec
10:15 am Connie Goddard, Mark Roth
Ushers: 8 am Judi Buncher
10:15 am Larry Nibbling, Walter Dein
Organist: Fiona Smith Sutherland Altar Guild: Colleen & Mark Roth
Coffee Hour: Cassandra & Abigail Murphy

February 23

Celebrant: Reverend Lisa Mitchell
Deacon: Reverend William Balmer (10:15 am only)
Seminararian: Denzel Donaldson
Acolytes: 8 am Judi Buncher, Denzel Donaldson
10:15 am Cassandra Murphy, Dexter, Kodi & Abe Craven, Denzel Donaldson
Lectors: 8 am Walter Dein / Denzel Donaldson
10:15 am Robert Maber, Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers: 8 am John Callaghan
10:15 am Bramley Maber, Christine Maber
Organist: Fiona Smith Sutherland Altar Guild: Cindy Webster
Coffee Hour: Halina & Larry Nibbling

FEBRUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><u>Office Hours:</u> Tue. – Fri. 10am – 2pm</p>						1
<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>8 am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:15 am Holy Eucharist Epiphany Pageant</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p><u>Office Closed</u></p> <p>7:00 pm GFS Zoom</p>	4	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>9:30 - 11:15 am Holy Eucharist Peak in the Week</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>10:00 am Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>6:00 pm Vestry Retreat</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>9:00 am Vestry Retreat</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>8 am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:15 am Holy Eucharist & Baptism followed by Soups for Sale</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p><u>Office Closed</u></p>	11	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>9:30 - 11:15 am Holy Eucharist Peak in the Week</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p>10:00 am Choir Practice</p>	14	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>8:30 am - 10 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>10 am – 12 pm Second Saturday Workday</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>8 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:15 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist</p> <p>ML+ Away</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p><u>Office Closed</u></p> <p>ML+ Away</p>	18	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p>9:30 - 11:15 am Holy Eucharist Peak in the Week</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>10:00 am Choir Practice</p>	21	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>12:00 pm ECW's Lunch at Molly Pitcher</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>8 am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>10:15 am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>12:15 pm Philly 11 Film at St Peter's Freehold</p>	24	25	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p>9:30 - 11:15 am Holy Eucharist Peak in the Week</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>10:00 am Choir Practice</p>	28	

Christ Church Shrewsbury

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www.ChristChurchShrewsbury.org + christchurchshrewsbury@verizon.net + 732-741-2220



"Be friends with Christ Church Shrewsbury" and then invite your friends to be our friend so we all can be informed and connected to events in our community.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.
BRING SOMEONE TO CHURCH WITH YOU.

The Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell, Rector
The Reverend William Balmer, Deacon
Denzel Donaldson, Seminarian
Fiona Sutherland, Organist/Choirmaster
Brother Richard Biernacki, Children's Choir
Francesca Parker, Office Administrator
Halina Nibbling, Sexton

VESTRY 2025

Elaine Feyereisen - Senior Warden
Peggy James - Junior Warden, Stewardship
Stephen Craven - Treasurer
Lynn Marengo - Asst. Treasurer
Madna Aubry - Stewardship, GFS Representative
Julie Sinn Cassidy - Youth Ministries
Walter Dein - Property
Sue Napoletano - Church School
Bob Stewart - Graveyard
Susan Sellers
Dianne Regiec - Food Insecurity
Nancy Stewart - Vestry Clerk

